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SUBJECT: SOUTHEAST TURKEY PRESS SUMMARY,
JUNE 24, 2003

1. This is the Southeastern Turkey press summary for June 24, 2003. Please note that Turkish press reports often contain errors or exaggerations; AmConsulate Adana does not vouch for the accuracy of the reports summarized here.

POLITICAL, SECURITY, HUMAN RIGHTS

2. Milli Gazete, Bolge / The workers who had been fired from CEAS are organizing to ask for their rights. 1400 workers had lost their jobs without any particular reason when Uzan family took over the factory.

3. Turkiye, / 185 Afghans were caught in Van; they were thought to have entered Turkey from Iran illegally.

4. Turkiye, / In Urfa the government asked the village guards to protect BOTAS Pipeline. The guards said they guard to provide peace and security in their area. "Guarding the pipeline is not our job", they added.

5. Milliyet, Hurriyet / EU will send 500 million Euros to the Southeast each year until 2006. EU is also appropriating 9 million Euros for education in Diyarbakir.

6. Milliyet, /In an interview on CNN Turk, The chairman of DEHAP Mr. Bakirhan says they are ready to be the mediator between KADEK and The Turkish Government. Bakirhan says they will not only concentrate on the Kurdish problem, but the problems of Turkey as a whole.

7. Evrensel, / 140 families in Sirnak want to return to their villages. The government wouldn't let them, so the Human Rights Organization in Diyarbakir is evaluating the problem with the government authorities.

HOLTZ